

1 What is claimed is:

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- 3 1. A method for cutting a continuous glass sheet during the production of flat
4 glass with an inhomogeneous thickness distribution across its width by
5 moving a cutting tool at an angle to the direction of travel across the width
6 of the glass sheet with a cutting force predetermined by a controller,
7 producing a fissure, then mechanically breaking the glass sheet along the
8 fissure,
9 wherein the cutting force, adapted to the glass thickness, is actively
10 specified by the controller.
11
- 12 2. The method as recited in Claim 1, with which the position of the cutting
13 tool is detected continuously during its cross-cutting motion and,
14 depending on the position of the cutting tool, the controller applies an
15 appropriately adapted cutting force in the region of the glass sheet with
16 constant glass thickness and, in the regions with greater or smaller glass
17 thickness, the controller applies a cutting force that is increased or
18 reduced accordingly.
19
- 20 3. The method as recited in Claim 2, with which the position-dependent
21 switchover points for the cutting force are specified in a fixed manner in
22 the controller.
23
- 24 4. The method as recited in one of the Claims 1 through 3, with which the
25 cutting force adapted to the glass thickness is predetermined in a fixed
26 manner in the controller as a function of an initial measurement of the
27 distribution of thickness.
28
- 29 5. The method as recited in Claim 1, with which the glass thickness is
30 detected continuously by sensors during cross cutting and, as a function
31 thereof, the cutting force is automatically adjusted in the controller.

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2 6. The method as recited in one of the Claims 1 through 5, with which the
3 fissure is produced mechanically by a small cutting wheel and the cutting
4 force is predetermined based on the pressure of the small cutting wheel
5 on the glass sheet.

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7 7. The method as recited in one of the Claims 1 through 5, with which the
8 fissure is produced by inducing thermomechanical strain, and the cutting
9 force is determined by the output of the heat source.